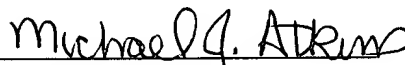


The Office Action also rejected claims 1, 5, 14, 17, 18, 25, 31, 35, 45 and 81 under 102b as allegedly being anticipated by the WO Patent Application '612 ("the Reference"). Applicants have amended the claims to remove any overlapping subject matter. Specifically, the Examiner indicated that claim 2 is allowable if the section 112 rejections were corrected. Applicants have removed the 112 rejectionable material and have incorporated the limitations of claim 2 into claim 1. In light of the amendment, it is respectfully submitted that the pending claims are not anticipated by the Reference and removal of the rejection is solicited.

In light of the foregoing comments, Applicants respectfully submit that the amended claims are patentable and requests the Examiner to forward the application for issuance. If there are any issues that are unresolved or unclear, Applicants request the Examiner to contact their representative at the phone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,



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